

mtech insight

The Monthly Newsletter from the Offsite Specialists

in brief...



The manufacturing advisory service

There may still be some funding available from MAS, it can help pay for up to 10 days consultancy from Mtech on any manufacturing related issue – but please do not hesitate as funding streams do dry up when you least expect it!

Call Susie Bell for an initial discussion on 01743 276041.

Offsite & MMC in Affordable Housing

A Collaborative Research Project

Housing Associations are continually being encouraged to use more MMC & offsite technologies in their projects, and usage has grown consistently since 2000. The sector has even been a testing ground for many new systems, but the recent focus on sustainability, the Code for Sustainable homes (CfSH), and the severe funding position has changed the emphasis on the need for buildability.

The pressure on the affordable housing sector to build more for less has never been greater - this is true both in terms of cost and CO2 emissions.

For the benefit of all those involved in the provision of affordable housing, the time has arrived to re-assess where MMC & offsite technology has advanced to as manufacturers are encouraged to improve their products and delivery efficiencies in response to the economic climate.

Mtech, as the UK's only specialist consultancy for MMC & offsite, engaged nine collaborative sponsors and undertook an in depth study of recently completed affordable housing projects which used these technologies, and here provides answers to key questions that Housing Associations need to consider as they develop their future build strategies.



tuesday 01 – thursday 03 march 2011
ExCeL london www.ecobuild.co.uk

Opening times for Ecobuild are:

Tuesday 1st March 10.00-17.00,

Wednesday 2nd March 10.00-18.00

Thursday 3rd March 10.00-16.00

Mtech are exhibiting at Ecobuild 2011 in a joint venture with the Modular Portable Building Association. This year is the biggest Ecobuild ever with over 50,000 visitors expected to attend and over 1,300 suppliers showcasing thousands of sustainable construction products.

Mtech can be found on Stand N472. Each day our expert consultants from Mtech will be available to advise and help you with any of your Offsite questions. If you would like to make an appointment to see a member of Mtech at Ecobuild please call 07791 554674 at any time during the exhibition.

Mtech Solves Senior Team Riddell

Mtech Consult, the UK's leading independent authority on offsite construction methods, has boosted its Senior Management Team through the appointment of Commercial Director, Steve Riddell.

Steve has extensive industry experience, in both the traditional and offsite construction sectors, as well as working within the supply chain. It was this rounded understanding that made him the obvious choice for Mtech.

Tasked with the strategic role of developing the business, Steve will identify areas for growth, both within the UK and overseas, and ensure the company is equipped to maintain its position at the forefront of the offsite construction market.

Steve comments: "I was first properly introduced to modern methods of construction when I ran my own property development business and experienced them first hand.

From that point, Mtech was the obvious, and only, career choice for me. Offsite construction is the future of building, and Mtech the foremost authority in the UK.

"What also excited me about the company was that it influences a multitude of markets, and different sides of the equation. We can advise on so many aspects, including certification, lean manufacturing processes and product developments to name just a few. Equally, Mtech works closely with both manufacturers and contractors – there is no other company that can say that."

Martin Goss, MD at Mtech, added: "Steve's relevant and comprehensive experience as a contractor, developer and company owner/director made him the perfect choice. Like us, he has experienced both sides of the coin and this, combined with his strong commercial awareness, made it a simple decision, and one from which we are already reaping the benefits. I'm confident Steve will help us continue to go from strength to strength."



We are not Local - we are Global

Bob Mears has been invited by The Modular Building Institute of America to act as guest speaker, his presentation will be "Prefabrication in the United Kingdom" at World of Modular in Las Vegas on 12th March 2011.

This is the first time Mtech has been involved with the Modular Building Institute (MPBA equivalent in USA) and we are all looking forward to forging strong links with the MBI in the same way as the MPBA and PrefabNZ. Again, our thanks to Tom Hardiman and Steve Williams for inviting Mtech Consult.

The World of Modular exhibition runs from 12th to 15th March, if you are considering a visit to World of Modular please either contact Susie Bell on 01743 276041 for details or visit our website www.mtech-consult.com/events.

UKTI may have some funding to participate in overseas exhibitions; please visit <http://www.mtech-consult.com/funding> for further information.

[read more](#)



**offsite
online**

The smarter way to find Offsite systems

Offsiteonline is a unique reference resource for the latest information on companies supplying quality offsite solutions in to the UK construction market.

Offsiteonline now has more than one million page views per year and is now the leading online index dedicated to offsite construction, manufacturing and MMC.

The website provides a wide range of content regarding systems and services for the construction industry and is actively promoted with both online and traditional advertising through our partner, Building Magazine.

Our 2011 site will have dedicated editorial slots covering a wide range of topics including contract news, construction projects, legal and H&S plus other general industry news specific to Offsite Construction and Manufacturing.

5 New advertising categories have been introduced to suit your needs perfectly. If you would like to advertise please call Susie Bell for a full media pack on 01743 282282 or visit www.offsiteonline.co.uk.



Linked in

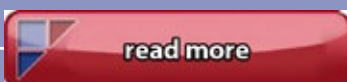
Mtech are now on Linked In... and you are all invited to join, if you have an interest in all things Offsite why not join us in lively discussions and debates on issues regarding offsite technologies with like minded people from all over the world.

We only have a couple of members so far but hope to grow it over the next few weeks and look forward to hearing your comments on the industry and any new technologies that are emerging. So join the group without delay and be part of the Mtech Consult world wide network.



Advanced Manufacturing in Construction MSc at University of Salford

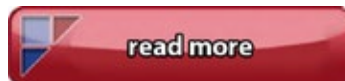
If you are interested in formalising your knowledge of offsite, a new Msc degree is on offer at the University of Salford, if you do not have formal qualifications your experience in manufacturing construction can be taken into consideration when applying to join the course.



Prefabrication and Sustainability - Lessons from the UK

The UK's prefabrication industry is flourishing, with offsite methods of construction being incorporated into myriad developments to deliver time and cost savings as well as significant sustainability improvements.

Here, Martin Goss, Managing Director of Mtech Consult, the UK's leading independent consultancy in prefabricated building methods, discusses what the USA can learn from overseas about this low-impact building technique to start reaping the ecological and economic benefits.



Ecobuild Joint Venture



If you are planning to visit Ecobuild at ExCel, London and have an interest in Modular Buildings and Offsite technologies please visit Mtech Consult and the Modular and Portable Building Association (MPBA) on Stand N472. We are all looking forward to a great event and hope to see you there.



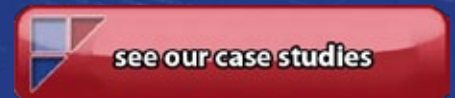
Myth Busting Modular buildings are tiny cabins

Not true... you can have a building practically any size – thank you to Yorkon for this wonderful image of a light and airy learning space.

FI Systems – Product Design Case Study

What was Mtech's Brief?

Mtech were invited to help ensure that a new product developed by FI Systems was suitable for factory manufacture and met the needs of clients, specifiers and installers alike.



Mtech Consult
Maple House | The Professional Quarter
Shrewsbury Business Park | Shrewsbury | SY2 6LG
T: 01743 282282
E: info@mtech-consult.com
www.mtech-consult.com

